



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Public Information Officers

APARTMENT FIRE

344 North Cleveland Street

MEMPHIS, TN - The Memphis **Fire** Department responded to a report of a building on fire at 344 North Cleveland Street, Friday, December 24, 2021, at 8:37 am. Upon arrival on the scene, firefighters reported smoke and fire visible from a two-story apartment building. Rescue and Firefighting operations began immediately.

Nineteen (19) pieces of **Fire**/Rescue/EMS equipment and approximately Forty-eight (48) emergency response personnel responded to the call. Acting Division Chief C. Wilkins was the commanding officer of this incident. The fire was brought under control at 9:08 a.m. There were no firefighter or civilian injuries.

It has been determined that the vacant building **did not** have a working smoke alarm. The structure sustained smoke, fire and water damage. Total damage is estimated at \$433,000.00 structure and no contents. The origin and cause of the fire was determined to be accidental; as a result of a grill left unattended on the second floor balcony. Red Cross assistance was not requested.

The Memphis **Fire** Department urges all citizens to maintain a working smoke alarm in their place of residence. Check smoke alarms once a month and change the battery when you change your clocks. City of Memphis residents may apply for a **free smoke alarm** by calling the Fire Museum of Memphis at (901) 636-5650 or apply on-line at: <https://www.memphistn.gov/government/fire-department/free-smoke-alarm-application/>. Always have a plan of escape in case there is a fire. Also remember that 9-1-1 is for emergencies only. For all other **FIRE/EMS NON-EMERGENCY** issues please dial (901) 458-8281.

Prepared by: Lt. Hunter Smith

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